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Embassy of the U.S.A.  
Baghdad, Iraq.

Wednesday, January 3, 1951

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MEETING OF THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES

The Lower House convened on Tuesday to discuss certain questions raised by deputies. Before commencement of debate, Deputy Sa'ad Omar objected that the number of opposition votes on the Reply to the Speech from the Throne was 21 and not 19 as recorded. In reply, Deputy-President of the House, Ahmed Al-Amer said that the total votes of the opposition have been corrected to read 20.

Replying to a question by Deputy Faiq As-Samarrai, regarding Jewish representation in Parliament, HE Mustafa Al-Umari, declared on behalf of the Premier who was slightly indisposed, that on the expiry of the Denationalization Law shortly, the government will introduce a bill amending Article 9 of the Electoral Law of 1946 to make Jewish representation in Parliament consistent with the number of Jews in Iraq.

Faiq As-Samarrai further adds that when he tabled this motion on June 24, 1950 the number of Jews who had applied for denationalization was 20,000 and now it has shot up to 80,000. He explains that those Jews should automatically forfeit their Iraqi nationality whether the Council of Ministers has approved it or not, adding that Jews in other countries are kept under strict surveillance because they constitute a dangerous element to the country. He urged that they be sent to special concentration camps until their turns come up, instead of having them represented in Parliament.

Following deliberations of other items on the agenda, Parliament adjourned until Saturday to debate a 12-point agenda.

The Senate will meet on Thursday to debate the Reply to the Speech from the Throne which was passed by the Lower House. (Ash-Sha'ab)

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HE MUZAHIM AL-PACHACHI WRITING HIS MEMOIRS

Former Prime Minister Muzahim Al-Pachachi is writing his memoirs on the Arab cause, with particular reference to the developments of the Palestine issue in the last two years. (Az-Zaman)

January 3, 1951

ROYAL MEDICAL COLLEGE COMMENDS DR. AMIN RUEHA

In a memorandum submitted to the Premier, Presidents of both Houses; Presidents of the Independence and of the National Democratic Parties; HE Ahmed Hilmi Pasha, Premier of the All-Palestine Government; and to the Arab Ministers in Baghdad, the Union of the Royal College of Medicine stated that the great Arab Leader, Dr. Amin Rueha, now awaiting trial in Damascus, is suffering from septicaemia in his prison without being given the proper medical treatment, and that he is not even allowed to consult his council of Defense. It urges these bodies to condemn these unprecedented acts and to strive to sparing him this persecution which is contrary to the most "elementary human principles". (Az-Zaman)

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IMPORT OF TEXTILES AUTHORIZED

The Higher Supply Committee has authorized the import of 1500 tons of newspaper print for distribution to local newspapers at cost price. It has also recommended to the Finance Ministry the import of about 5,000,000 yards of brown sheeting, white shirting and other textiles, of 10,000 tons of sugar, of tires and tubes, and of coffee and tea. (Al-Izza)

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SETTING UP OF A JOINT ARAB MILITARY COUNCIL

HE Najib Al-Hawi, Iraqi Minister to Egypt declared that the Iraqi government has agreed to the meeting of the Arab League Political Committee on January 20, 1951, and added that the Egyptian government has confirmed to Premier Nadhim Al-Qadsi while in Cairo, its support of the Iraqi Military proposals passed by the Political Committee in Alexandria and which calls for the setting up of a Joint Arab Army Staff Commission. (Al-Hawadith)

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EXPORT OF IRAQI OIL TO JORDANIA

The Higher Supply Committee has decided to export 800,000 tons of gasoline, 400,000 tons of fuel oil, and 6,000 tons of gas oil, to Jordania. It has also increased the allocation for the import of American automobiles this year to ID. 350,000 from ID. 150,000 last year. (Al-Alam Ul-Arabi)

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SYRO-IRAQI...

SYRO-IRAQI ECONOMIC AGREEMENT

Preliminary negotiations have already taken place between the Iraqi and Syrian governments for the conclusion of an economic agreement. The Iraqi government has agreed to the Syrian proposal to conduct these negotiations in Syria. The names of the Iraqi Delegation have not yet been released. (Al-Akhbar)

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AMERICAN EMBASSY NOTE ON POINT IV AID TO IRAQ

The Foreign Office has forwarded the American Embassy Note on "how to benefit under Point IV Program" to the appropriate Ministers for immediate action, with the reservations previously suggested by the Egyptian Government in regard to benefiting of this aid by the Arab States. (Al-Alam Ul-Arabi)

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TEXT OF REPLY TO THE SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

Your Royal Highness:

Our Majlis extends to Your Highness its gratitude for opening Parliament and beseeches Almighty God to crown Your Highness with success in the performance of State functions in the country's interest. It also beseeches Almighty God to prolong your life to be a bond for constitutional life, and to keep and protect His Majesty the King. (Al-Sha'ab)

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